Students from IDP camps sitting for the first half-year examination at Satyonesu Ward Sub-Basic Education High School. PHOTO: NAY LIN

Schools reopen in Maungtaw, Buthidaung as stability returns

Min Thit (MNA)

SCHOOLS temporarily closed in Maungtaw and Buthidaung townships after ARSA extremist terrorist attacks have now reopened as peace and stability return to the region.

Yesterday, students could be seen attending school and resuming their normal routines, according to the head of state education department in Sittway.

“In Maungtaw, primary, middle and high schools were reopened. In Buthidaung too, up to 21 schools were reopened. Teachers have also returned to schools and are teaching the students”, said U Aung Kyaw Tun head of the state education department.

A high school headmaster said academic life has been fully restored in Maungtaw.

“School was reopened on 19 September, but some students were unable to attend. All teachers are present”, said U Aung Myint Thein, headmaster of No. 1 Basic Education High School in Maungtaw Township.

According to the office of the head of the Rakhine State Education Department, schools in Maungtaw and Buthidaung town were reopened, but schools in villages were not yet opened due to security situations.

“Opening of schools in rural areas of Maungtaw and Buthidaung townships depend on security. Schools in ethnic villages are safe and secure, but we need to think about schools in Bengali villages. If the administrative side considers it safe, these schools will reopen. Teachers are ready”, said U Aung Kyaw Tun.

According to the Rakhine State Education Department, about 3,000 students who fled from Maungtaw and Buthidaung town to Sittway after ARSA extremist terrorist attacks were attending schools in Sittway so that there would be no gap in their education.

“There are students from kindergarten to matriculation class from relief camps attending this school. Books and stationery were provided to them free and they were attending class together with students from this school.”

SEE PAGE 3

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PHOTOGRAPIHS
Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker delivers rice to Sittway IDP camps

AMYOTHA Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung and donors delivered 3,000 bags of rice to displaced people sheltering at camps in Sittway and Maungtaw yesterday.

They left for Sittway yesterday and were welcomed in Sittway by Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu and officials.

The Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker and donors then went to IDP camps in Sittway and delivered the rice bags. Thirty rice bags were given to 308 people from 89 households in Adatethan Monastery temporary relief camp, 30 rice bags for 265 people from 93 households in Dhammarama Monastery temporary relief camp, 30 rice bags for 338 people from 102 households in Maramargyi Monastery temporary relief camp, 50 rice bags for 486 people from 114 households in Hindu temple temporary relief camp and 70 rice bags for 686 people from 286 households in Danjawadi Sports Ground temporary relief camp were donated.

While meeting with local ethnic nationals in the temporary relief camps, Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung explained the government’s programmes for regional development, road communication and security in Maungtaw region and gave words of encouragement.

U Aye Tha Aung and donors will continue to provide assistance to ethnic nationals in Maungtaw and Buthidaung townships from 1 to 3 October, it is learnt.—Win Min Soe (IPRD)

Union Minister meets MMPA executive members, attends opening of MMPA Cinema

Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint attended a opening ceremony of the Myanmar Motion Picture Asiayon (MMPA) cinema which was held in conjunction with a ceremony to welcome and farewell incoming and outgoing MMPA executive members held at MMPA on Wingaba Road in Bahan Township, Yangon.

The Union Minister and MMPA Chairman U Lu Min touched the Magic Ball to open the MMPA cinema, and some scenes were screened to demonstrate the cinema’s video and audio systems. Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint then delivered a speech to commemorate the event.

In his speech, the Union Minister said it is an auspicious occasion because new MMPA executive members were systematically elected according to rules and regulations agreed upon by motion picture personnel and old MMPA executive members graciously transferred duties. “Whichever sector you are in, it is required to work together for the development of your work and society. Recognition is given to MMPA for selecting executive members as per their wishes for the development of the sector. This selection is a good example for the country as well as other organisations. People in the country were interested in the selection of the new executive members. Present Chairman U Lu Min and new Chairman U Zin Wine’s acting ability, as well as leadership skills, are much admired. The Union Minister urged the use of these skills diligently for the motion picture personnel’s affairs and added that the Ministry of Information will support the MMPA in the best possible ways.

Afterwards, MMPA Chairman U Lu Min gave a speech followed by another speech from the newly elected MMPA Chairman U Zin Wine. MMPA Chairman U Lu Min then presented a certificate of honour to U Zin Aung Soe of Clover Solutions, who donated audio equipment for the MMPA Cinema.

Later, the Union Minister attended a dinner held in the lawn in front of the statues of the fathers of Myanmar motion picture industry. The day’s event was attended by officials from Ministry of Information, MMPA officials and artists.—Myanmar News Agency

Donation for villagers remaining in villages

RAKHINE State minister for Social Affairs Dr. Chan Thar led donors from Myitta Ariyan Foundation to donate foods, clothing and cash to security personnel and villagers remaining in villages in Maungtaw district yesterday afternoon.

First, Dr. Chan Thar and party went to No. 1 Border Police command commander office and donated food in recognition by the people of the security personnel and Police Maj-Gen Thura San Lwin and officials accepted the donation. Next, the party donated offerings to Ywamakyaungtike Sayawdaw of Kyeinchaung village, Maungtaw Township and donated food, clothing and cash assistance to villagers remaining in the village.

With regards to the donation, Myitta Ariyan Foundation chairman U San Kyaw said “There are many donations to relief camps but donation to those who didn’t flee (the violence) are few. That is why we are going to the villages to donate. Each household is provided a cash donation of Ks 15,000. Total value of donation including cash and goods is about Ks 30 million. We plan to visit about seven to eight villages to donate.”

After the ARSA extremist terrorist attacks of 25 August, local people were facing difficulties and some have fled while some remains.

This is why Myitta Ariyan Foundation led by state minister for social affairs went to donate villagers remaining in Kyeinchaung and Yan Aung Kyin villages.—Thant Zin Win, Naing Lin Kyi
Forum on printing industry development

WITH an aim for continued existence and development of the print industry and to provide modern printing technology to printing businesses, the Ministry of Information and the Myanmar Printers & Publishers Association (MPPA) organised the Myanmar Printing Industry Forum – 2017 which was held yesterday morning at the Sedona Hotel in Yangon.

Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint delivered a speech, in which he noted that opportunities for printing businesses and printing technologies would be discussed.

Printing press and printing technology has changed, and with the onset of electronic media, there is fear of the print media sector disappearing. Despite those fears, researchers pointed out that print is far from disappearing, but rather than appearing in the old form, it is appearing in many new forms and will continue to develop, the minister said.

Printing businesses need to innovate for the existence and development of printing industry, and it is for this reason that today’s forum was held, said the Union Minister.

“Individually or collectively as a group, people in the business should discuss and review. New ideas and methods to develop the entire printing industry will come out of discussion like this. By working together, opportunities for success will be achieved”, he said.

The Myanmar printing industry is not at a stage where anyone should be worried, the minister continued. But globally, the print business is believed to be declining. At a time when discussions and thoughts were put in for existence and development, our country’s printing businesses discussing to find ways for development is a sign of being ahead of time rather than being late. Therefore, our printing businesses should discuss ways recognising opportunities and develop them while obtaining new technology and achieving success. The Union Minister also expressed his hopes that good results will come out of the forum for printing technology and printing industry development.

Afterwards, MPPA Chairman U Min Han gave a welcoming speech.

U Kyaw Thu from Graphic Icon Consult Group, Fuji Xerox Asia Pacific Operation Pte. Ltd Operation Manager Mr. Timothy J. Howard, Myo Kyun Tha Co. Ltd. Managing Director U Thein Zan and MPPA joint secretary U Kyaw Htay Min discussed “Modern printing technology,” “Publishing and printing digitally,” “Graphic systems” and “Development of print industry”, respectively and forum attendees asked questions on the topics.

In the afternoon, the Ministry of Information’s Printing and Publishing Department, MPPA, printing businesses and experts discussed the topics of opportunities for development of businesses related to the printing business and technology development in printing and publishing.

The forum was attended by the MPPA Chairman, the Vice Chairman, executive members, experts from local and foreign printing businesses, departmental officials and interested persons.

“The appearance of social media, printing businesses that rely on newspapers, journals and magazines are declining. Currently, printing businesses appear to be weakening.

The forum was held to prevent this. The belief is that if a public company that involves all materialises from this forum, it would be able to face the competition from foreign investment” said MPPA Chairman U Min Han.

MPPA was formed in 1990 with an aim to instill unity among members, achieve technological parity internationally in development, increase job opportunities and act as a bridge between member businesses and the government. — Myanmar News Agency

Schools reopen in Maungtaw, Buthidaung as stability returns

FROM PAGE 1

There were quite a number of them when the terrorist attacks started, but as peace returns to the region, some already went back and only a few remain in this school”, said deputy headmaster U Than Myint of the Satyonesu Ward Sub-Basic Education High School, Sitwai.

Tenth-grader Maung Kyaw Naing fled to the Sitwai relief camp with his family from Maungtaw township when terrorist attacks occurred on 25 August and looks forward to returning to his hometown.

“Due to the terrorist attacks, I fled from the village with my family to Sitwai. We are currently staying in the relief camp and I am attending Satyonesu Ward Sub-Basic Education High School. Once our region is peaceful, I will return to the village with my family. I’ll attend school in the village”, Maung Kyaw Naing said.

It is learnt from the office of the head of the state education department in Sitwai that when schools closed due to terrorist attacks are reopened, overtime classes will be organised in order to make up for any lost teaching periods.

Laungdon Village post-primary school in Maungtaw Township, Rakhine State remains open

AFTER the 25 August extremist terrorist attacks by the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA), primary schools in villages were closed, but the Laungdon Village post-primary school in Maungtaw Township remained opened through the efforts of a local ethnic teacher U Me Chay, with monetary support from the Wai Lu Kyaw Foundation.

“The school teaches from primary to fifth standard. All the teachers fled to Maungtaw and Sitwai when the events occurred, but 129 students remained. With the Muslim students, there used to be a total of more than 800 students. No Muslim students remain now. I taught in this school for four years. When the event occurred, there were gaps in the teaching, but due to the monthly support of Ks50,000 per month provided by the Wai Lu Kyaw Foundation and author Waihin Aung, I’ve been teaching alone for seven days because other teachers are afraid to come. My feeling is that the students are discouraged for being unable to learn. If young people do not learn, they will not achieve their life’s targets. But Ko Kyaw Win met with Ko Waihin Aung and arranged to provide help, so I was able to continue to teach and I am very happy about this” said U Me Chay.

Ko Kyaw Win, a local who helped look after the school, said the remaining 129 students still represent a diverse cross-section of ethnicities.

“Students in this school include Rakhine, Mro, Thet, Daingnet, Marama, Bama, Pa-laung and Kayin youngsters. Forty-eight are in primary, 36 in first standard, 19 in second standard, none in third standard, 24 in fourth standard and two in fifth standard. They all live in Laungdon Village and there is a police post nearby” — Myanmar News Agency
CBT project for villages in protection zone for Ayeyawady Dolphin

BEGINNING this high season, a community-based tourism (CBT) project will be implemented in six villages situated within the Ayeyawady Dolphin protected zone, said U San Yu, assistant director of Directorate of Hotels and Tourism (Mandalay Region).

In collaboration with the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism will carry out implementation of the CBT project in the designated areas towards its goal of increasing number of tourist arrivals.

Fishing with the help of Ayeyawady dolphin is unique to Myanmar. The cooperative fishing practice between fisherman and dolphins attracts international visitors, with residents earning extra income from demonstrations of fishing with dolphins.

The ministry continues to improve local businesses, including small-scale pottery businesses, edible oil production, production of bamboo hats and cheroot-making firms with the aim of creating more employment opportunities for locals, U San Yu said.

Six villages, including Myitsin, Myitkanbi, Hseht, Seinpan, Ayeegun and Myaeon villages, located between Mingun and Kyaukmyaung segments of the Ayeyawady River, have been chosen to implement community-based tourism this peak season. According to an official survey, there are 26 dolphins in the Mingun-Kyaungmyaung protected area.—Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-printing House)

Toyota Hiace to be sold via installment plan

TOYOTA Aye and Son Co., (TTAS), Toyota’s authorised dealer in Myanmar, is now arranging to sell the 16-passenger Toyota Hiace, suitable to be used as a school bus, to those wishing to operate school bus services through an installment plan, according to TTAS.

A proposal about the new plan has already been submitted to the relevant government departments, according to the company.

U Myo Aye Zaw, general manager of TTAS, said the company will sell the Hiace vehicles, produced by Japanese automobile manufacturer Toyota, at a price of around US$33,000 each.

Those wishing to operate this type of car as a school bus will be able to purchase the cars through a five-year installment payment plan with a down payment of 30 per cent.

Buildings in Yangon-Dala bridge project area to be cleared next month

WITH the Yangon-Dala Bridge Project to begin in early 2018, authorities are planning now to remove buildings within the project area this October, according to a report of the Myawady Daily issued on Saturday.

The total land area of the bridge project includes school buildings, monasteries, shops and houses. Authorities have already provided suitable compensation for properties of those people in project area after making several negotiations.

Authorities have already relocated schools and religious buildings included in the project area.

With a US$33.4 million loan granted by the Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF), the bridge will be constructed across the Yangon River to link local roads in downtown Yangon. The approximate cost for the project is about $168.17 million.

The bridge will take five years to build and will be 6,144 ft in length. It is estimated that the new bridge will be finalised in the 2020-2021 fiscal year.—GNLM

Golden Triangle mountain bike invitational contest to be on 17 December

AN invitational mountain bike contest of Golden Triangle Region is due to take place in Tachilek, a town in eastern Shan State, on 17 December, according to a Saturday report of the Myawady Daily.

All interested individuals from Myanmar as well as enthusiasts from Laos and Thailand are invited to take part in the competition.

The tournament is being jointly organised by the Department of Physical Education under the Ministry of Health and Sports, and the Tachilek Mountain Bike Group, a Tachilek-based group which has about 70 members.

This is the first time for the Tachilek Mountain Bike Group to hold this type of sport event.—GNLM
Jade cutting, carving businesses trying to survive in declining market

THE flow of jade into Mahar Aung Myay jade and gem market in Mandalay has been decreasing during this rainy season, and the number of Chinese buyers has also declined, making survival difficult for those engaged in jade carving businesses, according to a report in yesterday’s Myawady Daily.

Contributing to the cool jade market was low demand from China and recent confiscation of precious metals along Mandalay-Muse Road, said the jewellers. In addition, the rainy season limits mining operation, forcing gem diggers to go back to their native towns, resulting in a labour shortage.

Only tourists from Hong Kong, China and Japan buy jade bracelets and statues at jewellery markets. —GNLM

Four states and one region received no foreign investment in first half of this FY

KACHIN, Kayah, Chin and Rakhine states and Magway Region failed to attract any foreign investment in the first half of this fiscal year, according to a recent announcement of the Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC).

Hard-to-reach places such as Kachin, Kayah and Chin states only have rare opportunities to attract foreign investments. Magway Region and Rakhine State have also found it difficult to attract investments.

More than US$4 billion of foreign investments flowed into Myanmar in first half of the current fiscal year.

In the incumbent government’s period, the MIC set three different zones in which entrepreneurs will enjoy the benefits of tax exemption and relaxation from three to seven years. The places which are still weak in development are identified as zone 1, places which are fairly developed as zone 2 and places which are developed as zone 3, according to an announcement of the MIC with the approval of the Union Government.

Investments in Zone 1 areas are granted tax holidays of seven consecutive years, whereas the investors in zone 2 can enjoy tax exemption for five straight years. Zone 3 will have a tax break of three consecutive years.

Zone 1 areas with the least development include 14 townships in Kachin State, seven townships in Kayah State, seven townships in Kayin State, nine townships in Chin State, 34 townships in Sagaing Region, four townships in Taninthayi Region, five townships in Bago Region, 13 towns in Mandalay Region, eight towns in Mon State, 13 towns in Rakhine State and 42 towns in Shan State.

The fair development areas for zone 2 are four towns in Kachin State, three towns in Sagaing Region, seven towns in Taninthayi Region, 23 towns in Bago Region, 12 towns in Mandalay Region, eight towns in Mon State, 13 towns in Yangon Region, 14 towns in Shan State, 17 towns in Ayeyawady Region and eight towns in Nay Pyi Taw. The developed areas for investment zone 3 are 14 towns in Mandalay Region and 32 towns in Yangon Region, according to MIC’s announcement.

The areas of the zones can be fixed by MIC depending on the region and state development needs under the approval of the Union Government. —Ko Khant
Xi said the party should better integrate the basic tenets of Marxism with the “reality of contemporary China and learn from the achievements of other civilizations to create and develop Marxism,” Xinhua said.

“Xi also asked Party members to study contemporary capitalism, its essence and patterns,” the report added, without elaborating.

China has transformed its economy since it began landmark reforms in the late 1970s, and is now the world’s second-largest economy. Private firms are now supported and encouraged, but the state-owned sector remains a major driver of growth and investment, though some industries like iron and steel are suffering from worryingly high levels of over-capacity.

Xi said the party must continuously develop socialism with Chinese characteristics, continuously enhance China’s comprehensive national strength and fully demonstrate the advantages of China’s socialist system.

Next month’s party Congress, which opens on 18 October, will see Xi further cement his grip on power and usher in a new generation of senior leaders.—Reuters

Chinese President Xi Jinping speaks during the 86th INTERPOL General Assembly at Beijing National Convention Centre on 26 September, 2017 in Beijing, China. PHOTO: REUTERS
Half of Bali volcano evacuees told to return home as not in danger

SEMARAPURA, Indonesia — Local authorities on Indonesia’s Bali said Friday that more than half of evacuees fleeing a possible eruption of the island’s Mt Agung should return home, since they are not in harms’ way and their evacuation poses a burden.

They must be sent back to their villages, because they will become a burden — a burden for those who accommodate them, a burden for other evacuees who left their houses,” Bali Governor I Made Mangku Pastika told a press conference.

He said that of 78 villages in Karangasem Regency in the eastern part of Bali that would mostly be affected by an eruption of Mt Agung, only 27 are situated within the danger zone.

“About 70,000 people from the 27 villages are unsafe because they will be potentially hit by hot clouds and lahar (a type of mudflow or debris flow) if Mt Agung erupts,” he said.

Pastika stressed there is no reason for villagers living outside the danger zone, namely radius ranging from 9 to 12 kilometres from the peak, to evacuate.

In the past couple days, however, the total number of evacuees has reached 144,389, as of noon Friday, as people living outside the danger zone, fearing of getting killed by the eruption, also evacuated.

The country’s Center for Volcanology and Geological Hazard Mitigation raised the status of Mt Agung to the highest eruption alert on 22 September following its increasing activities.

Pastika said a process of validation will take place for the next one week to determine which evacuees must be sent back to their villages and which ones can stay in temporary shelters.

Regarding the estimated 18,000 head of cattle that remain in the danger zone, the governor said he will speak with authorities in other provinces that usually import cows from Bali to seek a solution and provide land to accommodate them.

The cow is a sacred animal for Hindu Balinese. After evacuation was advised, many villagers had to sell their cows at very cheap prices because they did not know how to otherwise care for them.

“I sold my three five-month-old cows at only between 2 million (about $151) and 3 million rupiah,” Wayan Mawa, 30, who lives in the village of Sebudi, about 6 km from the volcano’s caldera, told Kyodo News from a sport stadium where he is sheltering.

“I bought them between 6.5 million and 10 million rupiah, but I had to sell it at very low prices,” he added.

And although residents in unaffected areas provide land for accommodating cows of the evacuees, others prefer to leave their cows at their villages and chose to return to their houses at daytime to them, risking their lives.

In a related development, the volcanology agency said in its latest update on Mt Agung, that “recorded volcanic earthquakes still show high numbers,” indicating “brittle failure inside the volcano caused by magma movement.”

“Satellites have detected new steam emissions and thermal areas within the summit crater; these areas have expanded during the past week and now include a new area of emissions in the centre of the crater,” the agency said.

“White steam clouds are occasionally observed rising 50-200 meters above the summit, and currently, the emissions activity are observed to be more frequent,” it added. The 3,142-metre volcano last erupted in 1963, killing about 200 people. Its 1963 eruption killed 1,549 people with an additional 200 later killed by the flow of cold lava caused by heavy rains.—Kyodo News

China makes targeted reserve requirement rate cut to boost lending to small firms

BEIJING — China’s central bank on Saturday cut the amount of cash that some banks must hold as reserves for the first time since February 2016 in a bid to encourage more lending to struggling smaller firms and energize its lacklustre private sector.

The People’s Bank of China (PBOC) said on its website that it would cut the reserve requirement ratio (RRR) for some banks that meet certain requirements for lending to small business and the agricultural sector.

The PBOC said the move was made to support the development of “inclusive” financial services and will be available to all medium and large-sized banks that meet requirements starting in 2018.

The reserve requirement rate will be cut a further 50 bps — or 0.5 per cent — for banks whose loans to the targeted groups account for 1.5 per cent of their balance of outstanding newly added loans for the previous year.

The rate will be cut a further 100 bps for banks whose loans to the designated groups account for 10 per cent of all loans, the PBOC said.

China’s cabinet had recently flagged a possible move, saying the government will take a number of measures, including tax exemptions and targeted reserve requirement ratio cuts to encourage banks to support small businesses.

The PBOC said the move was made to support lending of under 5 million yuan to small firms, loans to individual proprietors and for agricultural production, and lending that supports innovation, the poor and education.

The move is in line with existing policy to encourage more targeted lending to more vulnerable sectors of the economy, even as the government tries to cut down on speculative investment in the financial sector and property and rein in a rapid buildup in overall corporate debt.

But in the last two years, the central bank has preferred using new policy tools such as short- and medium-term lending facilities for a similar purpose. Most economists polled by Reuters had not expected an RRR move before 2018.

The PBOC said in a statement that the targeted RRR cut did not constitute a change to its prudent and neutral monetary policy. RRR is the amount of cash as a percentage of deposits that banks must park at the central bank as reserves. The current rate for major banks was set at 17.0 per cent after the last general RRR cut that took effect in March 2016.

The central bank in February extended a preferential programme that allows financial institutions that support rural finance and small enterprises to apply for a lower required level of cash reserves.

But despite still-stringent credit growth nationwide, many small businesses and farmers remain in desperate need of funds and do not have easy access to ample cheap credit that state-run firms enjoy.

Also on Saturday, the central bank said it will maintain prudent and neutral monetary policy and use multiple monetary policy tools to keep liquidity basically stable. The statement, which came after the third quarter meeting of the PBOC’s monetary policy committee, said China will continue with interest rate and exchange rate reform while keeping the yuan basically stable.

China’s economy grew 6.9 per cent in the first half of the year, bolstered by a hot property market and a government infrastructure spending spree.

But business activity surveys have repeatedly shown large companies are reaping the benefits more than smaller ones.—Reuters
Nurturing Flower Buds Not to Wither

Khin Maung Oo

VERY recently, juvenile offences, events and actions of unhappiness were heard on media and social website pages. Juvenile cases and problems should be dealt with great care. Being naive in intellect and knowledge, it will be the best way that they are well-trained to become well-behaved ones by their parents, teachers, guardians and seniors.

These days, disappointing news concerning with children are being talked about here and there. A case was filed against 3 children who happened to take K 300 from the donation cash-box. One of the two children whose parents absconded from home without paying debts was killed in the event of torture by the creditor. And, children in their early school age were also punished so that they may be mentally harmed. Above all, the worst thing is that innocent children were killed without any reasons.

Some of the said children affairs were effectively solved by authorities concerned. Yet, due to lack of legal knowledge on rights and future of children, as for their parents and guardians, cases of negligence of children and violations over the minors are being still heard.

Weakness of authorities concerned in dealing with the very recent case of three children who happened to have taken K 300 from the donation cash-box led to a furor among the public, as if taking out a pierced thorn by using an ax instead of a needle. An event of taking a legal action against a very small minor case done by children below mature age, made the public burst out their anger, staging a demonstration.

As a matter of fact, we have had juvenile codes in the country. If needed, their offences are to be dealt with according to the prescription of juvenile codes. Under section 2/A of the juvenile code 1993, those under 16 are defined as children, while in section 2/B those under 18 above 16 defined to be youths. Being under 16 years of age, the above-said 3 children must be dealt with according to juvenile rights and codes.

Children must be said to be the greatest investment of a country. Children must be corrected if they are found to have gone astray or mentally dissolve, if ever. If they are well cultivated since younger age, they will surely become trustworthy and reliable for their families, societies and country.

If they are wrongly cultivated under fear and inferiority complex, they will wither. Any good results cannot turn out from them when they have grown up, as if buds are picked up or males are castrated. Then it will become a great worry for the country in future.

Accordingly, parents, guardians, teachers and authorities concerned should prioritize protection, nurture and development of children.

Fake News are Rampant

Khin Maung Myint

At a time, even when the heads of states, such as the presidents, the prime ministers, and the responsible government officials around the world have no scruples, whatsoever, about faking news themselves or directing their staffs to do so, it’s no wonder the fake news are becoming rampant. In certain countries, fabricating or faking of news have become a lucrative business.

The fake news are everywhere. They can be seen in the business competition, in the political lobbying, in diplomatic wrangling, as military strategy, in the arms race, even in the election campaigns and in various other uses as many as you can imagine. Though they may vary in nature, their main objectives are the same—to achieve their own gains by deceits—which are unethical. The fake news had even become the key player in deciding who is elected and who is not, in major election, even in a certain very developed country.

Our country too is being severely attacked with the fake news and the false propagandas. It wouldn’t be far from the truth if I say that our country is the hardest hit victim of fake news and false accusations lately. The fake news managed to convince gullible and naive people around the world, including the most responsible persons of certain authoritative world organizations and countries. They are accusing our country of committing genocides, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity, without any concrete proof.

Their accusations are completely contrary to the real situations that are actually happening on ground. In reality it was the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army, or the (ARSA) terrorists and their handlers from abroad, who are the ones committing the arsons and massacring. They are killing even their own kind, who they suspect of collaborating with the authorities.

I had been aware that the spreading of the false and faked news were in vogue and were gathering momentum since after the incidents that took place in 2012 in Northern Rakhine. The social media provided them a very convenient tool to spread false and fabricated informations about the plights of the so-called Rohingyaas. The Internet websites, such as the #Rohingya, the #Arakan and the #Rakhine are flooded with misinformation and faked photos posted by people around the world who blindly support the ARSA, without knowing the truths or are intentionally ignoring them. Some very well known international media groups are also lending them a hand in promulgating fake news in the print, as well as on the broadcast media.

The term Rohingya emerged around the late 1960s. However, it was not widespread as now and not many people outside of the Rakhine State had ever heard of that name before. Even in Rakhine, only a handful of people knew about their presence in those days. The self-identified term was linked to an underground movement group called the “Rohingya Muslim Independence Revolutionary Front (RMIRF)”, which was uncovered, apprehended and jailed, but that news wasn’t publicized much in those days. However, the extensive propagandas after the 2012 incident made that name to become world renown. The propagandas were done through the spreading of false and faked news on the social media and also with the help of some well established international media.

They claimed that as their ancestors had dwell in the Rakhine State since many centuries ago and thus they are an ethnic national race of Burma. That was a false claim and didn’t have any historical record to support it. In reality the people who migrated from the East Bengal of India many centuries ago were never known or recorded as that term, but only as Bengali. When that tactics failed, they claimed they are discriminated, harassed and persecuted and accused that they are being unfairly being bullied.

All of their accusations are false. They are in fact present day illegal migrants, who are not entitled to be granted citizenships, let alone to be recognized as an ethnic race. The genuine descendants of those who were granted citizenships since the British annexation of Rakhine in 1824 were entitled and were being recognized as citizens, down many generations until today. After the latest clashes, in which the ARSA terrorists were the real perpetrators who committed the atrocities of massacring, arsons and laying of the area, military personnel mines, some leaders including the UN chief, UN human rights chief, the Bangladesh Prime Minister; and some leaders from the West falsely accused our country, using harshest terms, such as genocides, atrocities and crimes against humanity, which are totally unfounded.

I’m sure their accusations were based on the fake news from the well known international media that are one-sidely advocating for the ARSA terrorists.

The latest reports of the number of people who were supposed to have fled to Bangladesh, too were also very doubtful. In my opinion they were being inflated intentionally. Though all military operations had ceased as of 5 September, they claimed that refugees continued to flood into their country. That couldn’t be true.

One day the report said about 270,000 refugees had arrived there, but the next day the number shot up to over 400,000. That meant over 130,000 people arrived there in the next 24 hours. I am very familiar with that place where the fleeing people made the river-crossing and had some experience repatriating illegal migrants across that river in 1969. Judging from the photos and video clips in which only a few people were seen crossing the river and based on my own experience, I know for sure that over a hundred thousand people, including elders, disabled, children and pregnant women couldn’t have made it within a matter of 24 hours. That was absolutely impossible.

These fake news are being intentionally spread for various reasons, but the main reason is to discredit our country and at the same time rally the support of the UN to pressure us into receiving back those who fled there. In the mid 1970s, our country was bullied to take back double the number of what were actually expelled or fled from our country.

I can go on writing about the fake news endlessly, but I think I had made my point that they had done much damage to our country. Because of them we are being condemned, criticized, ridiculed and pressured, or to put it bluntly, we are unfairly being bullied.
Books donation to Information and Public Relations Department libraries

A ceremony to donate a hundred book titled Ithiya Mahn (female’s might) and other short stories written by author Khaing Yin Mon (arts and science) to Ministry of Information, Information and Public Relations Department (IPRD) libraries was held yesterday morning in IPRD training hall.

First, the donor and author Khaing Yin Mon (arts and science) explained about the reason for donation and IPRD Director General U Maung Pe gave words of thanks. Author Khaing Yin Mon (arts and science) then donated to the director general 100 Ithiya Mahn and other short stories books, each book worth Ks 3,000 and the director general in return presented a certificate of honor.

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Children in remote Kachin State to receive Japanese encephalitis vaccine

ABOUT 330,000 children under the age of fifteen years residing in far-flung Kachin State will receive the Japanese encephalitis (JE) vaccine through the government’s immunisation programme beginning in mid-November, according to the Myawady Daily.

The head of the Public Health Department (Kachin State) said preparations are being made prior to the Japanese encephalitis vaccination programme, which is planned to be carried out in November and December on a national scale.

According to the World Health Organization, the Japanese encephalitis virus, a leading cause of viral encephalitis in Asia, is spread by mosquitoes. The virus is primarily transmitted by the Culex species of mosquitoes. The first case of JE was recorded in Japan in 1871.

The symptoms of the deadly virus include fever, headaches and disorientation. Survivors may suffer permanent mental or neurological problems.

Training has been given by the health department to its staff in each township to successfully implement the vaccination plan.

According to the schedule, the school-based Japanese encephalitis vaccination programme will start on 15 November and will continue until 23 November, whereas the community-based immunisation programme will be from 11-20 December. —GNLM

Fake News are Rampant

FROM PAGE 8

I had never thought that the world community could be so gullible to believe the groundless faked news. If this trend should continue it would be very difficult to believe any individual, organisation, country or the international media in the future.

(Khin Maung Myint (U) served as the secretary of the Sittway District Security and Administrative Committee in Sittway, from 1968 to early 1970).

Open letter to Mr. Roger Hearing, BBC Journalist

15 September 2017

Roger! Roger! Hello! Are you listening? If you are listening, you must be Hearing! Sorry you must be Mr. Rog-er Hearing, BBC journalist.

Do you remember me? We met long time ago, way back in 1993. I am Maung Maung Aye of the New Light of Myanmar daily. At that time I was an edi-
tor. During your ten-day trip to Myanmar I was liaison officer as well as your part-time porter.

I hope you will not forget your visits to Bagan, Mandalay and Pyin-Oo-Lwin, the scenic hill station. There in Pyin-Oo-
Lwin, you, in spite of my warn-
ing, drank sugarcane juice. We got back to Yangon and the fol-
lowing day on an Air Force plane bound for Lashio you felt sick. At that time you were thirst for a cup of hot green tea. But it was served only when the plane was airborne. Do you remember what you said to the sergeant after he had served you with the green tea? You said, ‘You save my life.’

We went to the town of Lashio in Shan State to cover the narcotic rugs destruction. Senior Myanmar officials and foreign diplomats flew to the destruction site in helicopters.

Since you came alone, I had to carry your tripod and shoot your news coverage for some time.

Your schedule included a trip to Maungdaw district in Rakhine State. From Yangon we flew to Sittwe and then hel-
copter to Maungdaw. You saw how the local people led their lives. I don’t know how you viewed the situation then and there. What I would like to point out is the problem of the so-called ethnic minority of Bengalis did exist then. In fact, it originated decades before.

Bangladesh, formerly East Pakistan, shares borders with India in the west and Myanmar in the east. As you know its border with India is heavily guarded. In the north stands the Himalayas with little space for human settlement and in the south the vast water body of the Bay of Bengal.

The size of Bangladesh is about one-fourth of Myanmar whereas its population (2016 estimates) stood over 163 million compared with the population of the latter over 51 million (2014 es-
timates). Due to rapid increase in its population Bangladesh has no solution to the problem except Myanmar’s porous border. Myanmar’s border section some 40 miles long is yet to be fenced. The Naf River between the two countries is narrow enough for every able-bodied person to swim across to Myanmar and back to Bangladesh.

On Myanmar side lived mostly Rakhine people or Arakanese. As far as I know they are devout Buddhists. They would not like to take the lives of even creatures, leave alone human lives. You may describe them the majority if you meant them the disgrace of the university; More than any one on earth, were doing horrors by the new arrivals who have entirely different family planning.

This is only food for thought to have the perspective of the problem. These days, however, the world media and even some Nobel laureates see things differently. You had been there and seen yourself, at least at a glance. If you were Daw Aung San Suu Kyi what would you say or do? Please say something about the issue so that I can see which side you are on.

Yours truly,
Maung Maung Aye
(The New Light of Myanmar)
President Xi meets US secretary of state

BEIJING — Chinese President Xi Jinping met with visiting U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson Saturday, discussing US President Donald Trump’s state visit to China later this year.

“Currently the most important event in our bilateral relations is President Trump’s China visit in November,” Xi said. “His visit will be a major opportunity for the development of China-US relations.”

Xi said China-US ties had been generally stable, and that he had maintained sound communication with President Trump.

Chinese and US teams should implement consensus reached by the two heads of state, grasp the direction of bilateral relationship, respect each other, and focus on cooperation while dealing with differences properly, Xi said.

“China attaches great importance to President Trump’s visit, and I look forward to working with him to outline and advance our bilateral relations in the years to come,” Xi said.

He said the teams on both sides should work closely to make the visit “successful and special.”

Tillerson conveyed Trump’s greetings to Xi, saying the US president looks forward to his visit to China.

Hailing the progress in US-China relations under the auspices of the two presidents, Tillerson said the United States values its relations with China and hopes to increase mutual trust and practical cooperation in various areas as well as to jointly tackle international and regional challenges.

—Xinhua

Moscow denies Ukraine’s accusation that it left troops in Belarus

MOSCOW — Russian troops that took part in war games in neighbouring Belarus have returned to their bases, a Russian general said on Saturday.

“As for units of Russian forces that took part in a mutual strategic military exercises ‘Zapad 2017’, they all returned to their permanent disposition,” TASS news agency quoted Major-General Igor Konashenkov as saying. “‘Zapad’ is the Russian word for west”.

Konashenkov spoke after Ukraine’s Commander-in-Chief Viktor Muzhenko said Russia had left troops behind after staging the war games despite promising not to.

Relations between Kiev and Moscow nosedived after Russia annexed the Crimean peninsula in 2014 and supported the outbreak of a separatist insurgency in eastern Ukraine that has killed more than 10,000 people.

Muzhenko told Reuters that Russia had withdrawn only a few units from Belarus and had lied about how many of its soldiers were there in the first place.

Konashenkov said Muzhenko’s remarks on Russian troops in Belarus were a fantasy. He said the comments were “a reason for an immediate resignation for such an executive officer,” referring to Muzhenko. A Belarusian defence ministry spokesman said the last train of Russian troops and equipment had left Belarus on Thursday.

—Reuters

Quake of magnitude 5.5 strikes in China’s Sichuan province — USGS

BEIJING — An earthquake with a magnitude of 5.5 struck 78 kilometres (48 miles) west of the Chinese city of Guanyuan in Sichuan province, the United States Geological Survey said.

The depth of the tremor was 10 km (6 miles), USGS said.

There were no immediate reports of damage, though people close to the epicentre said on Chinese social media that they felt shaking.

—Reuters
Jerusalem — Israelis were getting ready for the holiest day in the Jewish calendar on Friday, when an entire nation comes to halt for Yom Kippur, the Jewish Day of Atonement.

Jews traditionally fast on this day and hold intense services in synagogues throughout most of the day, asking for God's forgiveness. Yom Kippur begins on Friday at dusk and ends on Saturday at sunset.

Memorial prayers for the deceased, said four times a year, are recited on Yom Kippur. On Saturday at nightfall, the shofar (horn) is sounded once to mark the end of Yom Kippur.

During the two-day holiday, the entire country virtually comes to standstill. Restaurants, cafes, cinemas, and other businesses and public institutions, are all shut down. There will be no radio or television broadcasts. People completely refuel from using vehicles, except for medical emergencies.

Many people, predominantly seculars, go out on the streets with bicycles or by foot to stroll in the empty high streets. The beaches of Tel Aviv are typically full on this day.

On Thursday, Israel's military announced a two-day closure to be imposed on the West Bank and Gaza Strip starting on Thursday at midnight.

Exit and entries to the Palestinian territories will be allowed on humanitarian cases, the military said in a statement. Israeli put closure on the occupied territories during most of the Jewish holidays, charging that Palestinian militants might use the holiday to carry out an attack.

This year, Yom Kippur marks 44 years to the 1975 Arab-Israeli War; dubbed by Israelis as the Yom Kippur War since the surprise attack by Egyptian and Syrian armies started on this day.

The war is remembered in the Israeli collective memory as a traumatic event since it claimed the lives of many soldiers due to Israel's lack of preparedness to the attack.

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Kabul and the northern city of Mazari-Sharif and there have been a string of attacks since, with 20 people killed in a suicide attack on a mosque in Kabul a month ago.

Friday's attack, by suicide bombers posing as shepherds walking their sheep along a road outside the Hussainya mosque in the Qala-e-Fatehullah area of the capital, did not reach the mosque itself but wounded 20 people in addition to the five killed.

No up-to-date census data exists for Afghanistan but different estimates put the size of the Shi'ite community at between 10-20 per cent of the population, mostly Persian-speaking Tajiks and Hazaras.

Ashura, which is marked by large public commemorations by Shi'ite Muslims.

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Kabul — The Afghan capital Kabul braced on Saturday for further possible attacks ahead of Ashura, the holiest day on the Shi'ite Muslim calendar, a day after an attack claimed by Islamic State that killed at least five people near a large Shi'ite mosque.

Ahead of the celebration on Sunday, signs of increased security were in evidence across Kabul, with extra police checkpoints and roadblocks in many areas, while security was also increased in other cities.

Afghanistan, a majority Sunni Muslim country, has traditionally not suffered the sectarian violence that has devastated countries like Iraq, but a series of attacks over recent years have targeted the Shi'ite community.

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JALALABAD (Afghanistan) — At least 15 militants loyal to the Islamic State (IS) group were killed and their hideout was completely destroyed in drone attacks in the eastern Afghan province of Nangarhar on Friday night, a local official said on Saturday.

“An unmanned plane of NATO-led troops targeted IS militants’ hideout in Nazian district of Nangarhar province on Friday night, leaving 15 rebels dead,” Ataullah Khogiani, the provincial governor’s spokesman told Xinhua on Saturday.

The NATO-led Resolute Support (RS) troops, stationed in Afghanistan, usually conduct drone strikes against militants in the conflict-battered country.

Militants loyal to the IS that are active in parts of Nangarhar province have yet to make comment. — Xinhua

Congo military plane crashes in Kinshasa, no survivors — airport director

KINSHASA — A military cargo plane crashed in Democratic Republic of Congo's capital Kinshasa on Saturday, killing the crew, the director of the city's main airport said.

It was unclear how many crew members were on board. Government and military officials could not immediately be reached for comment. “There was a crash of a cargo plane. It’s a military plane,” George Tabora, the director of Kinshasa’s Ndjili Airport, said. “It wasn’t transporting passengers. The crew did not survive the crash.”

An agent at Congo’s aviation agency, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the plane was an Antonov 12 destined for the eastern city of Bukavu. It failed to take off properly from Ndjili and crashed into the surrounding neighbourhood of Nsele, he added. It was not immediately clear if anyone was killed or injured on the ground. — Reuters

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Turkey makes down payment on S-400 systems — Russian presidential aide

TULA — The contract on supplying Russian S-400 missile systems to Turkey is being fulfilled and Ankara has already made the advance payment, Russian presidential aide for military and technical cooperation Vladimir Kozhin said on Friday.

“The contract has entered into force, the advance payment has been made, I cannot say about the timeframe now,” Kozhin said.

The issue of giving to Turkey production technologies for S-400 systems has not been discussed; the parties have agreed only supplies of produced systems, he added. “We are not speaking about it, as yet we speak only about supplies of ready weapons, technologies — no,” he said.

On 12 September, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said that Ankara has signed an agreement with Moscow to purchase S-400 missile systems and had already made an advance payment. Kozhin told TASS such a contract had been signed and was about to be implemented. Turkish Undersecretary for Defence Industry Ismail Demir said the delivery of S-400 systems would begin within two years.

Russia’s S-400 Triumph (NATO reporting name: SA-21 Growler) is the latest long-range antiaircraft missile system that went into service in 2007. It is designed to destroy aircraft, cruise and ballistic missiles, including medium-range missiles, and surface targets. The S-400 can engage targets at a distance of 400 kilometres and at an altitude of up to 36 kilometres. — TASS

Spanish police occupy Catalan tech hub before banned vote

MADRID — Spanish police have occupied the Catalan government’s communications hub on the eve of a banned independence referendum which Madrid is attempting to thwart, the regional authority said on Saturday.

Tens of thousands of Catalans are expected to vote in a ballot that will have no legal status as it has been blocked by Spain’s Constitutional Court and Madrid has sent thousands of police to the northeastern region to stop it taking place.

But Catalan leader Carles Puigdemont told Reuters on Friday that the referendum would go ahead regardless.

“Everything is prepared at the more than 2,000 voting points so they have ballot boxes and voting slips, and have everything people need to express their opinion,” Puigdemont said.

On Saturday a Catalan government spokesman said at least four police officers had entered the center in Barcelona which controls the regional government’s telecommunications and IT and were expected to stay there for two days.

This followed an order by Catalonia’s High Court on Friday for police to prevent electronic voting taking place. The court also instructed Google to delete an application it said was being used to spread information on the vote.

Police and Spain’s interior ministry did not confirm the action. The head of the Catalan regional police has ordered officers to evacuate and close polling stations by 6 am. on Sunday, before the voting is due to open at 9 am.

At a closing rally for the independence campaign in Barcelona on Friday people formed the slogan “Referendum is democracy” in large white letters on a stage in front of a cheering crowd, many draped in the red-and-yellow Catalan flag.

Other Catalans camped out in polling stations in order to defy court orders to close them. — Reuters

Germany police arrest suspect over alleged supermarket extortion attempts

BERLIN — German police said on Saturday they had arrested a suspect in the case of a alleged extortionist who attempted to force supermarkets into coughing up tens of millions of euros by slipping a potentially lethal poison into baby food.

Police in the south-western lakeside city of Konstanz said they would ask a judge to approve an extension of custody for the 55-year-old German man arrested by police special forces late on Friday, after concluding he was a prime suspect.

“The suspicions have solidified,” they said in a statement. In mid-September, a suspect was recorded on security cameras placing quantities of poison in products for sale in some southern German supermarkets. He told the police via email that he done so, and threatened to do it nationwide and elsewhere in Europe unless given money.

Police said they had found some baby food laced with ethylene glycol, a colourless, odourless liquid used in the manufacture of antifreeze, which can be deadly if consumed.

Police added that, despite the arrest, the public should remain vigilant for signs of tampering when buying food. — Reuters
EU declines to rank rival bids for agencies leaving Britain over Brexit

BRUSSELS — The European Commission has shied away from ranking which cities should host Europe’s drugs regulator and banking authority after Brexit, saying the decision is up to the 27 member states which will remain.

The EU executive said its assessment, published on Saturday, was wholly based on information provided by governments in their bidding war to host the two agencies, which will be forced to relocate from Britain when it leaves the bloc.

“It (the assessment) respects the member states’ decision that the criteria should be unweighted and does not provide a ranking or shortlist of any kind,” the Commission said in a statement.

Nineteen member states have bid to host the European Medicines Agency (EMA) and eight want the European Banking Authority (EBA).

The final say on where to move the agencies rests with EU member states’ decision that the criteria should be respected the member states’ bloc.

US military begins inspecting 2 Ospreys after emergency landing

NAHA, (Japan) — The US military on Saturday began inspecting two Osprey aircraft at a commercial airport in Okinawa after one was forced into an emergency landing the previous day.

The incident came on the heels of other emergency landings and crashes involving the tilt-rotor aircraft in Japan and overseas. Osprey aircraft have caused concerns, particularly among residents of Japan’s southern island prefecture, since their deployment in 2012 at a US base there.

The emergency touchdown at Ishigaki airport Friday afternoon was followed hours later by reports that another Osprey crashed while taking part in an operation against Islamic State in Syria, leaving two US service members injured. The US military described the incident as a hard landing.

The two Ospreys, based at US Marine Corps Air Station Futenma in Okinawa, landed at the airport on the island of Ishigaki around 5 pm Friday after one of them saw abnormal notifications on an instrument panel while en route to the Philippines for an exercise, according to Japanese government officials.

Officials of the fire department in Ishigaki which responded to the incident said the aircraft was leaking oil near its right engine.

There was no sign of the other Osprey experiencing any trouble, the government officials said.

An Osprey made an emergency landing on 29 August at a commercial airport in Oita Prefecture, southwestern Japan, due to engine trouble and was grounded there for more than a week while it underwent repair. —Kyodo News

International tea forum, selenium products expo close

BELING — The 2017 International Tea Forum and the Fourth Selenium Products Expo closed on Friday in the Enshi Tuja and Miao Autonomous Prefecture, central China’s Hubei Province. Opened on Tuesday, the events have attracted over 200 tea enterprises, 400 companies of selenium industry and nearly 2,000 guests from over 30 countries and regions. A series of special activities were held during the events, including the Tea Masters Cup International competition, Global Tea CEO Forum and a summit to mark the 200th anniversary of the discovery of selenium.

The events have yielded abundant fruits as 30 deals and agreements in trade and investment were inked, involving a total trade volume of 40 million US dollars and investments exceeding 10 billion yuan.

As the World Capital of Selenium, Enshi is to hold the 5th Selenium Products Expo in 2018.—Xinhua

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

MV GSS YANGON VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GSS YANGON VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11.0.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T. where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim’s Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING LINES
Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

MV XETHA BHUM VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV XETHA BHUM VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11.0.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.P. where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim’s Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

MV SHAMIM VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SHAMIM VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11.0.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.P. where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S LAND AND SEA SHIPING LINES
Phone No: 2301185
Replicant or human? ‘Blade Runner 2049’ reignites existential debate

LOS ANGELES — Was Harrison Ford’s Officer Rick Deckard a human or a Replicant robot in 1982’s “Blade Runner”? That is the question that fans of Ridley Scott’s sci-fi thriller have been pondering for 35 years and now in a long-awaited sequel, that question is explored further.

Out in theaters 6 October, “Blade Runner 2049” takes place 30 years after the original film, when human-like robots called Replicants were hunted by police officers called ‘blade runners’ in a dystopian Los Angeles. In the new film from Time Warner Inc’s Warner Bros, LAPD Officer K (Ryan Gosling) hunts illegal Replicants hiding on a decaying Earth and he stumbles across something shocking on a space station orbiting the planet. Reprising his role is the older, rugged Ford reprises his role as Officer Deckard. The veteran actor called the film an “experiential opportunity” for audiences to engage in the philosophical rhetoric. “There’s a wonderful emotional context in the film, which is one of the things I most admire about it,” Ford said. “So much of what I had an ambition for seems to have been achieved.”

Scott’s “Blade Runner” envisioned Los Angeles in 2019 as a sprawling urban metropolis infused with Eastern and Western cultures. In “Blade Runner 2049,” Los Angeles has sprawled across much of California, and is built on top of Scott’s world, the gritty city a melting pot of English, Japanese and Russian influences.

Villeneuve said he made “Blade Runner 2049” as a standalone movie but given the new film’s higher stakes and bigger scope, a continuing franchise is not out of the question. “The idea was to make a movie inspired by the universe of ‘Blade Runner’ with a very specific story and yes, I’m positive that if (it) ever is achieved,” Scott said. “I’m positive that if (it) ever is achieved.”

We know the drawing was made during the lifetime of Leonardo da Vinci, we know that the paper was made in Italy, between Venice and Florence, and the third discovery is the high quality charcoal drawing of a woman, nude from the waist up, known as the Monna Vanna and in her arms, “Blade Runner 2049” as a movie inspired by the universe of ‘Blade Runner’ with a very specific story and yes, I’m positive that if (it) ever is achieved, Ridley will come up with another idea,” the director said.—Reuters

OJ Simpson set for imminent release from Nevada prison

LOS ANGELES — One-time “Tri- al of the Century” defendant OJ Simpson could be freed as early as Sunday from prison in Nevada, where he has been held since 2008 for a botched robbery, but the time and place of his release remain secret, his plans largely unknown.

Simpson, 70, won his freedom from a Nevada parole board in July after nine years behind bars, at a hearing that did not take into account his 1995 trial for the murder of his ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson and a friend, Ron Goldman. The one-time football star turned actor and TV pitchman nicknamed “The Juice” during his playing career was found not guilty in 1995 following that sensational, 13-month trial in Los Angeles, which was televised live daily, transfixing much of the nation. A civil court jury subsequently found him liable for the deaths and ordered him to pay $33.5 million in damages to the victims’ families, a judgment that remains largely unpaid.

OJ Simpson set for imminent release from Nevada prison

But California corrections officials say they had not received a parole transfer request for Simpson and had not been contacted by their counterparts in Nevada. Simpson is a native of California, born in San Francisco, and played his final years as a pro football player for that city’s team, the 49ers. He lived in Los Angeles at the time of the murders. But California corrections officials say he has not filed papers to live in that state either.—Reuters

PARIS — A French art expert believes a charcoal drawing kept in a collection for more than 150 years may be a preparatory sketch made by Leonardo da Vinci of the Mona Lisa.

The black-and-white drawing of a woman, made from the waist up, known as the Monna Vanna, was previously attributed to Leonardo’s studio, suggesting it was done in his style by a pupil or follower, not by the master himself. But after preliminary tests at the Louvre Museum, experts believe the sketch may well have been drawn by Leonardo. Among the signs, according to curator Mathieu Deldicque, are the fact the drawing was made during the same period as the Mona Lisa, the paper is from the same region of Italy, and the technique is very similar to that of the Mona Lisa.

“We know the drawing was made during the lifetime of Leonardo da Vinci, we know that the paper was made in Italy, between Venice and Florence, and the third discovery is the high quality of this drawing in the face of the Monna Vanna and in her arms,” Deldicque told reporters.

“That’s very interesting because the arms are the same as the Mona Lisa’s.” Leonardo, who lived from 1452 to 1519, was an engineer, scientist, inventor and sculptor; as well as one of the finest artists of the Italian Renaissance. He painted the Mona Lisa, also known as La Gioconda and regarded as the world’s most valuable artwork, at the beginning of the 16th century. It is believed to depict Lisa Gherardini, the wife of a successful merchant. —Reuters

Is 16th-century charcoal sketch a naked Mona Lisa?
KOREAN artist Jin-Woo Park’s realistic works that depict natural light and come from his creativity and unconstrained thoughts are shining at the Yangon Gallery. His exhibition opened last night and will continue until 5 October.

The exhibition is his 52nd solo show following exhibits in many countries including Japan, the US and China.

“The artistic techniques he uses to create un-stereotyped artworks are very attractive for Myanmar artists,” said U Tin Win (Beikthano), one of Myanmar’s well-known art masters.

His artworks that feature blended colours, unconstrained conformation analysis and constitutive beauty attracted Myanmar artists and art enthusiasts to the gallery on opening day.

The exhibition is his first solo show in Myanmar following his participation in a group exhibition of international and local contemporary artists at the same gallery in December last year.

The Korean artist got the idea to hold his solo exhibition in Myanmar during his first visit to Bagan, Myanmar’s national landmark that is dotted with ancient pagodas containing mural paintings following his participation in last year’s exhibition with international and regional artists.

At his opening yesterday, he also disclosed his plan for exhibiting the works of six Myanmar artists in South Korea.

—Nat Ye Hla

Hell's bells! Britain to get less bong for its buck in Big Ben blunder

LONDON — Renovations that will silence the Big Ben bell in the British parliament’s famous clock tower for four years will cost more than double the original estimate, officials said on Friday.

The commissions overseeing the work at Westminster have agreed to set aside 61 million pounds ($81 million) as opposed to the 29 million pounds estimated last year.

The House of Commons said there was now a greater understanding of the work that needed to be done on the masonry of the Elizabeth Tower, which houses the famous bell, and that surrounding ground conditions were more complex than initially thought.

“We acknowledge that there have been estimating failures and we understand the concern of the commissions,” the Clerk of the House of Commons, the Clerk of the Parliaments and the Director General said in a joint statement.

Big Ben ceased its regular bongs in August, and will remain silent for most of the next four years while the works are carried out.

The hammers, which have struck the 13.7 tonne bell every hour for most of the last 157 years, will be locked and disconnected from the clock, although the bongs will still sound for important events such as the New Year’s Eve celebrations.

—Reuters

Hot and sweet and red all over, Serbian village hangs peppers out to dry

DONJA LOKOSNIC (Serbia) — The village of Donja Lokosnica has turned red, as the pepper harvest hanging out to dry on almost every wall brings a wash of intense color to this Serbian farming community.

Most of the 1,300 inhabitants are involved in growing red peppers, which are air-dried before being ground into paprika, a vital spice in Balkan cuisine.

Part of the crop is hung to dry in late September, strung up from trees, roofs and on walls — where they look like thick, crimson ivy. The self-proclaimed “paprika capital of the world,” off the highway between Belgrade and Macedonia’s capital Skopje, has been growing sweet and hot peppers for generations in a cycle lasting nine months each year.

“The life goes by with paprika,” says Verka Stojanovic, a woman in her 80s. Individual pepper seeds are planted in plastic cups starting on 8 March and are transferred to the ground in May. The plants love heat and the 2017 harvest was abundant, meaty and rich in color and taste thanks to a scorching hot summer.

The peppers are “sweet as sugar, but also hot,” Verka said.

Some of the peppers are sold fresh and can be used to make ajvar, a traditional Serbian condiment that also contains garlic, chili pepper and roasted aubergine.

—Reuters
ONE Championship: Aung La N Sang to fight Pierre Alain Ngalani

Kyaw Zin Tun

Aung La N Sang, also known as Burmese Python, the middleweight champion of the ONE Championship, will defend his title against Pierre Alain Ngalani on 3 November in front of a hometown crowd at Thuwunna Indoor Stadium in Yangon.

Pierre Alain Ngalani is a Cameroonian-born mixed martial arts fighter, kickboxer and four-time Muay Thai world champion, fighting out of and representing Hong Kong. He is well known for his speed and trademark move “The Panther High Kick”. Ngalani currently competes in the heavyweight division of the ONE Championship.

Aung La N Sang posted on his Facebook page that his opponent for this match is a very big fighter and heavyweight division fighter. I would have to try very much to be able to win. How stronger he is, I will try my best.

As I fight before my beloved fans, I believe I can. “All my life, I’ve never seen myself more special than anyone. I don’t think I am faster, stronger or more talented. But I believe that if I continue to work hard towards a goal, I can achieve it. That goes true with anyone; you can achieve what you go after if you put all your heart and mind into it. God will bless you for the things you put work into, but don’t expect to achieve something you haven’t worked hard for. Also, don’t talk bad about others, instead use that time and energy to work on bettering yourself.’ I am excited about the opportunity to fight a heavyweight and I know the danger the man poses on me. But I am putting all my effort into giving myself the preparation necessary.’

“Thank you all for your love and support. See you all soon!” Aung La N Sang wrote.

North Korea wins 1st berth to Pyeongchang in figure skating

OBERSTDORF, (Germany) — North Korea won its first berth to the Pyeongchang Winter Olympics next February after its figure skaters finished sixth in the pairs contest at the Nebelhorn Trophy on Friday, amid heightened tensions on the Korean Peninsula.

The event taking place in southern Germany is designated by the International Skating Union as the qualifier to fill the slots for the 2018 Winter Games’ figure skating competition, excluding the berths secured by national teams through last winter’s world championships.

After Friday’s free skating, North Korea’s Ryom Tae Ok, 18, and Kim Ju Sik, 25, scored 180.09 points in total, including Thursday’s short programme, and secured a place at the upcoming Olympics in South Korea.

The pair had won the bronze medal at the Sapporo Asian Winter Games in February.

Regional tensions have been rising recently due to North Korea’s nuclear test and multiple missile launches, while International Olympic Committee chief Thomas Bach has expressed hope that the country will take part in the Pyeongchang Games.

“Thank you all for your love and support. See you all soon!” Aung La N Sang wrote.

Man United’s Pogba out long-term with injury, says Mourinho

LONDON — Manchester United midfielder Paul Pogba is facing a long spell on the sidelines due to a hamstring injury, manager Jose Mourinho said on Friday.

Pogba suffered the injury in United’s 3-0 Champions League win over Basel this month and has missed the past four games.

“He’s injured, he cannot play tomorrow and it’s not an injury that I can have the hope like I have with (Antonio) Valencia or (Phil) Jones,” Mourinho told a news conference ahead of the home Premier League game against Crystal Palace on Saturday. Mourinho did not put a time scale on Pogba’s return but said he was thinking about the 24-year-old France international in the same way as Zlatan Ibrahimovic and Marcos Rojo, who are expected to miss the rest of the year: “So long-term injuries I don’t speak about them,” Mourinho said. “Ibra and Pogba and Rojo, these players I don’t think about them.”

The Portuguese manager also confirmed midfielder Michael Carrick and centre back Phil Jones, who missed Wednesday’s 4-1 Champions League win at CSKA Moscow, remain unavailable. A late decision will be made on the fitness levels of Antonio Valencia, Marouane Fellaini and Anthony Martial, who was forced off in the second half in Moscow.

Qualify football teams for 2018 AFC U-16 Championship releases

Kyaw Zin Tun

Sixteen U-16 football teams including the team from host country Malaysia advanced to the 2018 Asian Football Confederation (AFC) U-16 Championship that will be held between 20 September and 7 October 2018 in Kuala Lumpur. The 16 teams were selected from qualification matches played among 116 teams.

The 16 teams that advanced included 10 winners of each group and the six best runners-up.

Most of the teams that advanced this year met in the same tourney last year. All the teams except four — Jordan, Tajikistan, Indonesia and Afghanistan — previously advanced to the 2016 AFC U-16 Championship.

According to AFC U-16 Championship statistics, Japan has qualified 14 times and taken two championships, while South Korea qualified 13 times and earned two championships. Iran, North Korea and Thailand have each qualified 10 times.

Jordan and Tajikistan have qualified two times each, while Afghanistan qualified for the first time this year. Indonesian player Sutan Diego Zico stands as the most prolific goal scorer, having garnered 10 goals this year. Japanese player Keita Nakano stands in second place with eight goals, while Australian player Tyson Savas is in third place with seven goals.
Be a good reader, to become a unique leader

Kyaw Zin Tun
1st year (University of Aldhimma)

To succeed, believe in to read. In 2012, after I graduated from the University of Maubin, specialization in Zoology, my parents want me to work as a government staff in our rural places such as a teacher or health officer. For me, I had a dream. I want to experience the challenges of the life when I was young. I decided to stay in Yangon to search the improvement of my life.

My mom told me that you’re not enough to stand on your feet; you’re not twenty yet; you have never been to Yangon; you’re a naive and there is no our relatives there; I am worried about you. When you start work, you are not going to be able to do well because you hadn’t any experiences.

I told my mom that I shall go to Yangon because I want to stand on my feet. I need improvement. I want to learn and work in the big cities. When I do the work, I will just do my best. Then, I believe that I will be able to do the best results.

“Mom, don’t worry about me, I have many friends. These are the books. Then, I have a super power. That’s I believe in to read.” I replied with a smile.

And now I have come to Yangon in 2013 as a first time. I lived with my cousin in the same hostel. I tried my best learning and working. I faced a lot of culture shot in Yangon as I lived in my small village for many years. I felt depress many times because of my funny behavior that dissimilar with the others. Whenever I felt depress, I mostly lived with my friends, the books. They always vision and encourage me to see my strength. Therefore, every holiday I met and stayed with my friends, the books without fail.

Today is also my super holiday. I am reading a book dreaming about my future to become a writer. One of the story in the book that I am reading now reminded and inspired me that to believe and achieve the dreams of me.

In the story, a man was walking through an elephant camp, and he noticed that the elephants weren’t being kept in cages. All the elephant were held not to escape from the camp by a small piece of rope tied to one of their legs.

As the man gazed upon the elephants, he was completely confused because the elephants didn’t just use their strength to break the rope and escape the camp. They could easily have done so, but instead they didn’t try to at all.

Curious and wanting to know the answer, he asked a trainer nearby why the elephants were just standing there and never tried to escape.

The trainer replied: “when they are very young and much smaller we use the same size rope to tie them and, at that age, it’s enough to hold them. As they grow up, they are conditioned to believe they cannot break away. They believe the rope can still hold them, so they never try to break free.”

The only reason that the elephants weren’t breaking free and escaping from the camp was because over time they adopted the belief that it just wasn’t possible.

After the story, I have come to understand that our human being needs the new system of beliefs to move the new places as the old belief system can’t make us changing our lives.

I closed the book and kissed it. Then, I mumbled that Oh! Fresh belief is in fresh read, I do find it, and I must be a writer in English. If there is something we want, the books will be ready to explore for us. Sincerely to say, holiday read always upgrade my inner belief. I do believe to read. Be you all the good readers, to become the unique leaders.

Invitation to young writers for Sunday section

The Global New Light of Myanmar is accepting submissions of poetry, opinion, articles, essays and short stories from young people for its weekly Sunday Next Generation Platform. Interested candidates can send their works to the Global New Light of Myanmar at No. 150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon or by email to dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com, with the following information: (1) Sector you wish to be included in (poetry, opinion, etc.); (2) Real name and (if different) your penname; (3) Your level of education; (4) Name of your School/College/University; (5) A written note of declaration that the submitted piece is your original work and has not been submitted to any other news or magazine publishing houses; (6) A color photo of the submitter; (7) Copy of your NRC card; (8) Contact information (email address, mobile number, etc.) – Editorial Department, The Global New Light of Myanmar news office

Altar Culture
Myanmar

On an altar against a tree
Stands a water crock accompanied
With a cup and thatched cocoon for shield
And offers passersby a cup of water free

“Come visitor come here and release
All the burden along the way you’ve carried
Take a short rest under this shady tree
Drink this water to make your weariness appease”

Rich or poor, upper, middle or lower
Streetside water crock never says never
Striving to calm the passersby ever
Makes everyone fresh as flower

Out of kindness and generosity
Bears a culture of a nationality
And not fail to provide an exemplary
On its people’s personality

People fetch water more than necessary
Not only drink, also spit it out and empty
Onto the ground for nothing
Also it be a modern culture out of generosity?

Honey Soe (B.M.T.M)
Lesson 21: Verbs — Tenses(4)

Dear Students,

For Tenses, you have already learned Simple Tenses, Continuous Tenses and Perfect Tenses.

Today, we are going to study Perfect Continuous Tenses (i.e. Present Perfect Continuous Tense, Past Perfect Continuous Tense and Future Perfect Continuous Tense.)

Let’s study the following examples.

I. We have been living here for more than half a century.
II. He had been working in this company for 15 years up till 2018.
III. They will have been playing in this team for 10 years by 2020.

In sentence (1) the action shows that “We have been living here for more than half a century and it means that we are still living here.”

(The action started in the past, have lived for years and still continuous to live at the present.) This is Present Perfect Continuous.

In sentence (2), the action shows that “He had been working in this company for 15 years up till 2018. But not now. The action of “working” is in the Past.” Not now.

(The action started in the Past, had worked for years up till 2010. But not now. The action had finished in the Past and continuous in the Past, up till 2010. Not now.)

In sentence (3) the action shows that it will be in the Future. They started playing in this team in the Past, still continue to play in this team and in an exact time of “2020” it will be 10 years.

The exact thing which will happen will be in the Future, not in the Present, not in the Past. Only in the year “2020” (i.e. in the Future) it will be 10 years...

So the action started in the Past, Perfect in the Past, still continues at the Present and what will happen in the Future. So, this Tense is called “Future Perfect Continuous”.

From the above example, you will come to know when to use which Tense.

All three show the being of Perfectness and Continuation, but one in the Present, another in the Past and the last one in the Future.

Let’s do some exercises now.

Exercise 21.

I. Write down 5 sentences of your own in the Present Perfect Continuous Tense.
II. Write down 5 sentences of your own in the Past Perfect Continuous Tense.
III. Write down 5 sentences of your own in the Future Perfect Continuous Tense.
IV. Fill in the following blank spaces with suitable tense (Present / Past / Future Perfect Continuous Tense) of the given Verbs.
   (a) I ……………… (see) this attractive car for more than 3 months here on this road.
   (b) We ……………… (sing) in this Orchestra for more than 2 years.
   (c) She ……………… (teach) in this school up till 1984, but not now.
   (d) They ……………… (stay) in this quarter for 6 years in 2020.
   (e) He ……………… (work) in my garden for a decade now.
   (f) You ……………… (be) his best friend up till his last breath.
   (g) Mg Mg ……………… (show off) like an actor for more than 10 years.
   (h) He ……………… (be) his best friend up till his last breath.
   (i) She ……………… (teach) in this school up till 1984, but not now.
   (j) He ……………… (work) in my garden for a decade now.
   (k) He ……………… (be) his best friend up till his last breath.
   (l) He ……………… (be) his best friend up till his last breath.

That’s all for today’s Lesson.

I believe that you all can do all these exercises easily.

Bye Bye Class ! See you next week !
Your English Teacher (GNLIM)
Email: drnumuswintin.rose.dawn@gmail.com

Children’s Literature Festival in Monywa from 13 to 15 Oct

By Aung Min Han

A literary exhibition designed to turn children on to reading is to be held at from 13 to 15 October at Monywa University in Monywa.

The Children’s Literature Festival includes 35 entertainment programs on the first day, 50 on the second day and 40 on the third day, and booths selling children’s books.

Besides, poem recitation contest, story telling contest, extemporary talk contest, painting contest, paper folding contest and games etc. will be included in the festival which is jointly conducted by Ministry of Information, Ministry of Education and Sagaing Region Government.

Children and visitors can also enjoy magic shows, puppet shows and Myanmar traditional martial arts at the festival which is the fifth one after the festivals in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Mawlamyine and Taunggyi.
Some Different Attitudes and Opinions by Different Stakeholders on the Present Education System (3)

Dr. Nu Nu Win
(Retired Professor and Head of Department)

The writer has already mentioned the stresses suffered by the students of today, both young and old because of some causes in our Education System these days. Today, the other factors found from the research will be mentioned.

Concerning with their feelings going to school (or Universities), nearly all students said they are happy to go to school just because they have to see their friends and teachers, they get the chance to play and talk with their friends. It clearly shows and it is so natural that all school boys and girls and all University students, as they have reached the social age while they learn their social surroundings and friends. They will come to know day by day how and whom to choose as their best friends.

As for the school lessons, most of the students like to study as they can follow day after day about their lessons. There are only a little, as small as 2% said they cannot follow their studies.

Together with this, all students said they have to attend tuition classes from their own teachers or from other tuition teachers as well. The tuition fees have been in a range from 4000 Kyats to one and a half lakhs as the classes become higher and higher. The highest tuition fees are the fees from the Universities of Medicine and the University Correspondence Courses of all Arts and Science Universities.

But, all students thought and also the parents thought that these tuitions are quite effective for the students to understand and to get higher marks in the examinations. So, as there is a great demand from the customer’s (students and parents) side, it is not very easy to demolish these tuition culture in a very short time. We need to take time to make it disappear regularly. So, to demolish the tuitions, we need to change the Assessment System.

So, to demolish the tuitions, the teachers need to change their teaching methods. The present system is not suitable for the students these days. For these facilities and opportunities, the higher demands come from the Basic Education side, not so much from the University students as they have their opportunities to a satisfactory condition.

But, concerning with the Cleanliness, Neatness and Tidiness, more satisfactory conditions are in the Basic Education Schools, both urban and rural and all schools from primary to high schools. They said all students and all teachers and staff have to do special cleaning day on Fridays every week and all Students on duty have to do every day.

Concluding the present situation of the Universities are so so wide, the staff who are concerned with cleaning the Campus cannot afford to reach every corner of the Campus to do the cleaning and so also those who are in charge cannot supervise them effectively. These are the facts pointed out by our largest stakeholders, the students.

The writer hopes these findings from her research can give food for thoughts for authorities who are concerned with all Education fields, both Primary and Secondary, and also with the Tertiary level. To be continued next week.

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The Global New Light of Myanmar is issuing a 24-page Special Supplement every Sunday. You can now advertise, at a low cost, in the exclusive Sunday special edition which includes a Youth Panel featuring articles by the up-and-coming generation. English language lessons, and interesting news on Myanmar’s economy, comic strips, featured articles and an interview section covering politics, the economy and modern society.

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The base plan of the Dhamayangyi is square as in Ananda. It has double-tiered sloping roof and four entrances on four cardinal directions. It has four towers. Narathu who built the Dhamayangyi was the great grandson of the Sixth Thibaw. It is said that Narathu took the plan of Ananda for his Dhamayangyi.

Dhamayangyi has two spacious amba-
laterities inside it. Outer amba-
laterity has high archways. The en-
tances to the inner amba laterity has been blocked with no apparent rea-
son. There many questions have arisen on “Why” and “When” those entrances have been blocked. There are many opinions regarding the blocking of entrances to inner chamber.

Among the proto-erotic inscriptions (praying shrines) of Dhamayangyi, the west-
ern entrance has two stylistic images on a single pedestal. Two stone inscriptions, one having the MD 1137 inscribed and another having M 137 inscribed are found together with the two images. In the northern face of the stupa a stone square pillar with inscription of 527 and 582 MD can be seen.

Bagan said that the Thabyinyu is the highest temple in Bagan. According to the surveyed tally of the monastery compound which was collected again and the tally of that time 2834 pagodas in Bagan.

According to Khin Maung Win translated by Khaing Phyu Sein

The Dhamayangyi is situated on the right side of the road from the western en-
trances of Ananda to Mawlamyine village. It is a one-storied temple and the largest of all religious edifices in Bagan. The pyramidal staircases of the walls of the roof make it seemingly upstanding and more distinct among the Bagan stupas and temples. It looks somewhat like the pyramids of Egypt if looked from a far point and it is so huge that it can be seen clearly from the distance. Dhamayangyi is not only the biggest but the most mammoth and is also the largest unconverted. Excellent brick layering can be seen in Dhamayangyi. It is not an exaggera-
tion to say that there is no space between the bricks even for a needle. It exhibits exquisite masonry works with mortar layer scarcely seen between the bricks. The arch and the walls look consolidate and firm. Dhamayangyi is so massive and firmly con-
structed that it could stand against the earthquakes without any remarkable damage.

Furthermore, a small stupa with the image of Garoche pagoda existed near Thabyinyu pagoda. Actually that small stupa was built by the bricks which had been the tally markers in the course of Bagan. Thibaw, Thayebhika 18, apart from each other can be seen in the south-western corner of the monastery compound which is located east of Thabyinyu.

Ananda, the latest of all. According to the surveyed tally of the monastery compound which was collected again and the tally of that time 2834 pagodas in Bagan.

Ananda has been supposed to be King Kyansittha and Shin Arathu copied the plan of Dhamayangyi and built it in 1170. According to the surveyed tally of the monastery compound which was collected again and the tally of that time 2834 pagodas in Bagan.

Nanda temple was built to the north of Ananda temple with fine mural paintings and amazing craftsmanship of 10 traditional arts and Crafts of Myanmar. The base and the roof of the temple were decorated with Terracotta plaques. Ananda is 1085 years old and it is famous as the finest and the most fascinating temple of Bagan.

The name Ananda was supposed to be come from Ananda, younger brother of King Kyansittha in the capital city of Bagan. In 1906 and the present Standing Buddha Image of Ananda temple one can enjoy looking at the fine crafts-
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manship of 10 traditional arts and Crafts of Myanmar. The base and the roof of the temple were decorated with Terracotta plaques. Ananda is 1085 years old and it is famous as the finest and the most fascinating temple of Bagan.
Many Hindu women forced to remove sindoor, read namaz: Horror engulfs Hindu women in Bangladesh camps

In an exclusive chat with India Today, many Hindu women from Maungtaw revealed that they were harassed, forced to remove sindoor, break bangles among other things in Bangladesh relief camps.

HINDU people living in Bangladesh relief camps have purportedly become a soft target for Muslims in the country. Both have taken shelter after coming from Myanmar but the difference is in the numbers, and that is the key.

Hindu women say they were forced to remove sindoor, break bangles and even tie the Puja calls herself Rabia now- the change happened this month. She is a Hindu Rohingya who left Myanmar in hope of a refuge.

But circumstances turned her life upside down. Puja, now Rabia, lost her husband to violence in the last week of August in Myanmar. She says he was not killed by the Army but by men clad in black with their faces hidden, who were abusing in the name of religion.

The woman says her husband and entire family were shot in front of her but she was left alive to live as a captive.

“They took us to the forest and said I would have to read namaz or they would release me... My sindoor was the only goldsmith. They took away all my jewellery and began beating me. All Hindus were identified and taken to a nearby hill. They were then killed in a row. Only eight women were allowed to stay among them mostly young and beautiful. They were told ‘You will have to turn Muslim and marry us’ We had no option but to surrender and go with them... We were taken to the forest and left without food to weaken us mentally also. Then we were brought to a camp in Bangladesh... Once my Hindu relatives heard about it they brought me to this place.”

Both Rica and Puja say there were six more women besides them who shared their fate. After they could not be traced anywhere in Myanmar or Bangladesh, they were identified at the Kotupalong Rohingya camp where they were kept under close watch by those who were allegedly executing this forcible conversion.

The government officials were clueless about what was going on till India Today Group brought this to their notice. “We do not have any such information,” said Md. Ali Hossain, Deputy Commissioner of Cox’s Bazar. “If it has occurred, we will take necessary action.”

The Hindu women were kept with Muslim women; being Hindu was an embarrassment for them. They were told “Your life is over... you are supposed to be dead. They were told to live only if they changed their religion. I was made to wear burqa and stay with them to learn their traditions for almost three weeks. I was made to read namaz... I had to say Allah, but my heart was beating for Bhagwan... My co-dwellers started searching for me and came to know that I was living in a Muslim camp.”

The red saree is the only thing Puja has now and her three-year-old son has no clothes at all. This reporter met many more such women in the Hindu Rohingya camp in Kotupalong area of Cox’s Bazar.

Rica Dhar was being turned into Sadia. Twenty-eight-year-old Rica Dhar adjusted her orange saree to feed her year-old son as she narrated a similar tragic tale.

“We were not traced anywhere in Myanmar or Bangladesh, they were identified at the Kotupalong Rohingya camp where they were kept under close watch by those who were allegedly executing this forcible conversion.

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The Hindu women were kept with Muslim women; being Hindu was an embarrassment for them. They were told “Your life is over... you are supposed to be dead. They were told to live only if they changed their religion. I was made to wear burqa and stay with them to learn their traditions for almost three weeks. I was made to read namaz... I had to say Allah, but my heart was beating for Bhagwan... My co-dwellers started searching for me and came to know that I was living in a Muslim camp.”

The red saree is the only thing Puja has now and her three-year-old son has no clothes at all. This reporter met many more such women in the Hindu Rohingya camp in Kotupalong area of Cox’s Bazar.

Rica Dhar was being turned into Sadia. Twenty-eight-year-old Rica Dhar adjusted her orange saree to feed her year-old son as she narrated a similar tragic tale.

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USUALLY, every individual would like to see their city as a clean and peaceful place with its natural envoirs. Yet, continual utilization of easily available plastic bags and water bottles is none other than the fact that they themselves are destroying beauty of the city, its landscapes and natural environment.

Starting from early hours of preparing for purchase of our morning meal, we use disposable plastic bags and plastic purified water bottles and plastic soft drink containers, throwing the used ones away in an undisciplined way. It is an interesting matter who will safeguard our dwelling places—city and wards for imminent dangers not to come to us after making people come to be well convinced that these habits are increasingly deteriorating our natural environment and its beauty.

Whenever we go out shopping we should bring with us recyclable shopping bags for plastic bags. We should carry water in our own containers for plastic water bottles. And, if we dispose domestic rubbish and refuse in a disciplined way, we will all become city heroes who are protecting our city from increasing environmental pollution in every corner we can take part.

With the advanced technology, we are increasingly using plastic jobs ranging from motor vehicles to disposable plastic bags. Among those items, the major commodities we use since earliest morning are these disposable bags and purified water plastic bottles and disposable takeaway food containers.

In our country, mostly use disposable plastic for package, followed by disposable purified water plastic bottles. Excessive use of these kinds of plastic which will take over 400 years to be completely destroyed resulted in emergence of enormous piles of rubbish on earth and at seas. Its annual worldwide use amounted to 500 billion tons. Provided that they are spread on the ground one after another, it will go round the world for 4200 times, said by Ocean Crusader based in Australia, Frances, New Zealand, Germany, North America, South Africa, Sweden and UK.

In Australia, one-liter purified water plastic amounting to 582.9 million in FY 2009-2010, with only 36% of the amount reusable. According to Ocean Crusader, the remaining amount turned out to be trashs.

The only way to destroy is burning them. Had the way been used, it can cause huge volume off air pollution. So governments only urge to choose the way of reducing its uses. In Myanmar, if one asks what kinds of trash are mostly found in back-alleys and major roads, unanimous answer will be disposable plastic jobs—bottles and bags. Though huge disadvantages of plastic utilization was not found yet in Myanmar like developed countries, it will be in for very soon, if the potential risks go uncaressed.

As to protect dangers of plastic use, discussions were made to draw a bill on its uses at Amyotha Hlutaw’s meeting in the reign of the former government. Civil societies and economic enterprises and industries as well are making efforts on their part.

Recently, famous film stars themselves launched an educative campaign in Bagan Region, titled, “Say, No Plastic Bag.” [We would like to use “Refuse use of plastic bags,” if the quote is not its original wording.]

From 2014 on, in all sub-City Mart Supermarkets too, a program “No Plastic Bag Day” has been being implemented every 5th of the month where- as in marketplace by City Mart as well every last Monday and Tuesday of the month with the co-operation of customers.

Besides, it has been learnt that City Hero Kits are being sold out as of 21st September with a view to encouraging customers to protect our city from environmental pollution by using reusable bags and personal use water containers for purified water plastic bottles.

City Hero Kits contains City Hero Shopping Bag, City Hero water bottle, to be used for plastic jobs and City Hero badges to fasten on clothes as a symbol of honor. Restricted amounts of City Hero Kits have been produced, exclusively designed for City Heroes of Yangon. It is hoped that City Hero Badges will remind us of reducing utilization of plastic jobs. Especially earnings from the sale of City Hero Kit will be used in the task of the conservation of our national environment, according to Ma Hnin Le Wai, Marketing Executive.

City Hero Kit contains city-hero-brand shopping bag, personally used water container, a badge and Honor Certificate of City Hero.

Only if efforts are made not to use disposable bags as much as possible since prior to its use, which are difficult to be destroyed and it will takes several years to be destroyed, will prevention be able to be made not to cause environmental pollution.

It will cost a lot to recycle plastic at the time when it turns up as rubbish. As it takes time much to be destroyed, it greatly causes destruction to soil, ground water and natural environment. It will help to protect our dwelling place and its surrounding areas only if we ourselves reduce uses of plastic jobs and we can make our fellow dwellers practice this habit.

Let us change ourselves into City Heroes as our city is waiting for city heroes who care for natural environment, systematically throw rubbish and protect environmental pollution.

A TALE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 10

Creativity of mother to protect her young baby from foxes- A deer mother tales

By Khin Maung Phone Ko

ONE day in the time of sunny spring when everything is bright and green, a mother deer brought out her newly born baby three-month-old called Dodo. When in the spring time other predators like foxes, were roaming around to find prey. Two foxes saw the deer mother and Dodo which they are interested to catch. The foxes went to the direction of them. But deer are helpless to protect their life, except running away with a swift speed.

But not a small little one dodo could not run and could be left behind mother deer. It was like the foxes for easy attack on their prey. However, God of creation provide a DMT chemicals only given to the animals and plants. With this DMT or other coined as spirit molecules, the mother deer struct on creativity and asked her child to go and hide or her child learn how to get out of foxes sights. When the little one is safely hiding under bushes, the deer mother show ran in sight of foxes and diverted them from her baby. Then two foxes chased the mother who out run them and wait again for foxes to come nearer and ran again. The running and chasing activities diverted the foxes away from the hiding baby. Finally, Foxes had given up to chase and had gone away. Then the mother deer came back to call her baby out of the bushes where it was hiding. Then the mother deer and Dodo enjoy roaming on the sunny bright and beautiful land scape of the jungle.

Bible Verses:

Listen, my son to your father’s instruction and do not forsake your mother’s teaching. They are a garland to grace your head and a chain to adorn your neck.